

**CLAIMS**

Claim 1 (original) A pool cue system including at least one pool cue shaft having a length, an exterior surface, a tip end, a distal end, and a ferrule-receiving portion of the pool cue shaft proximate the tip end, said pool cue system comprising:

at least one icon appearing on the exterior surface of the pool cue shaft observable within a user's peripheral vision when the pool cue shaft is in use,

wherein said at least one icon is located at least one predetermined distance axially along the pool cue shaft from the ferrule-receiving portion of said pool cue shaft; and

said at least one predetermined distance has a relationship to at least one game parameter.

Claim 2 (original) The pool cue system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one predetermined distance further relates to at least one pool cue shaft property.

Claim 3 (original) The pool cue system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one predetermined distance further relates to at least one external factor.

Claim 4 (original) The pool cue system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one icon comprises two icons and said at least one predetermined distance comprises two distinct predetermined distances providing a distance between at least part of each icon of said two icons.

Claim 5 (amended) The pool cue system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one icon comprises at least one icon disposed at least partially circumferentially about said pool cue shaft.

Claim 6 (original) The pool cue system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one icon comprises at least one feature of at least one larger iconic design.

Claim 7 (withdrawn by election)

Claim 8 (original) The pool cue system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one icon comprises at least one trademark logo.

Claim 9 (original) The pool cue system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one game parameter is related to at least one stroke parameter.

Claim 10 (original) The pool cue system of Claim 1, wherein the pool cue shaft is integral to a pool cue stick.

Claims 11-20 (withdrawn by election).

Claim 21 (withdrawn by election)

Claim 22 (new) A pool cue system including at least one pool cue shaft having a length, an exterior surface, a tip end, a distal end, and a ferrule-receiving portion of the pool cue shaft proximate the tip end, said pool cue system comprising:

at least one icon appearing on the exterior surface of the pool cue shaft observable within a user's peripheral vision when the pool cue shaft is in use,

wherein said at least one icon is located at least one predetermined distance axially along the pool cue shaft from the ferrule-receiving portion of said pool cue shaft; and

said at least one predetermined distance is predetermined to have a relationship to at least one of stroke length, stroke speed, and bridge hand location.

Claim 23 (new) The pool cue system of Claim 22, wherein said at least one icon comprises at least one feature of at least one larger iconic design.

Claim 24 (new) The pool cue system of Claim 22, wherein said at least one icon comprises at least one icon disposed circumferentially about said pool cue shaft.

Claim 25 (new) The pool cue system of Claim 22, wherein said at least one predetermined distance further relates to at least one pool cue shaft property.

Claim 26 (new) The pool cue system of Claim 22, wherein said at least one icon comprises at least one trademark logo.

Claim 27 (new) A pool cue system including at least one pool cue shaft having a length, an exterior surface, a tip end, a distal end, and a ferrule-receiving portion of the pool cue shaft proximate the tip end, said pool cue system comprising:

at least one icon inlaid in the exterior surface of the pool cue shaft observable within a user's peripheral vision when the pool cue shaft is in use,

wherein said at least one icon is located at least one predetermined distance axially along the pool cue shaft from the ferrule-receiving portion of said pool cue shaft; and

said at least one predetermined distance is predetermined in relationship to at least one of stroke length, stroke speed, and bridge hand location prior to inlaying said at least one icon.

Claim 28 (new) The pool cue system of Claim 27, wherein said at least one icon comprises at least one feature of at least one larger iconic design.

Application No. 10/949,868

Request for Withdrawal of Final Office Action and, in the Alternative, Response to Final Office Action

Claim 29 (new) The pool cue system of Claim 27, wherein said at least one icon comprises at least one icon disposed circumferentially about said pool cue shaft.

Claim 30 (new) The pool cue system of Claim 27, wherein said at least one predetermined distance further relates to at least one pool cue shaft property.

Claim 31 (new) The pool cue system of Claim 27, wherein said at least one icon comprises at least one trademark logo.

Claim 32 (new) The pool cue system of Claim 1, wherein said at least one predetermined distance comprises one predetermined distance of ten inches and further wherein said one predetermined distance further defines a bridge hand location.